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hexameter makes the "talk" drag even more than the expressed thought or sentiment would warrant. To our mind of course Vergil would be better praised by original dramas on independent themes taken out of his immortal epic. The prolonged study, however of Seneca may have made such a thing impossible to Professor Miller.

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AMERICAN CHARITIES. By Amos G. Warner, Ph.D. New Edition revised and enlarged by Mary Roberts Coolidge. New York: Thos. Y. Crowell & Co.

This volume is one of a series set forth under the title of *Crowell's Library of Economics and Politics*. It presents in clear and attractive form a large mass of facts which are of the greatest concern to every public-minded citizen, as well as to those who are students of sociology and civics. These facts have to do with the causes of Poverty, Degeneration and Crime; they lie at the basis of the various problems connected with the socially dependent classes; they have their bearing upon the administration of Charities, both public and private, as well as upon methods of such administration. An invaluable manual, both for students of sociology and for those who are actively engaged in philanthropic effort.

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THE GREATER ENGLISH POETS OF THE NINETEENTH CENTURY. By William Morton Payne, LL.D. John Lane Co.

The twelve papers on the poets which Mr. Payne singles out as the greater and more significant of the nineteenth century, are of varying merit. Those in which he treats of Arnold, Swinburne, Rossetti and Morris, bear evidence of a fine personal enthusiasm that is not without infectious quality.

But the modern watchword "Literature for Life" is quite clearly understood by our critic as literature for philosophic instruction and moral suasion. The failure for instance to perceive any deep prophetic import in John Keats's great odes, would naturally explain his over-estimate of Alfred Tennyson's deliberately didactic verse. We sympathise with him strongly in his effort to readjust our perspective towards Browning, un-

derstanding him rather as an emotional than as an intellectual poet.

Taking them all in all these papers make good reading, and the many quotations from other critics and commentators atone perhaps for a lack of individual audacity in thought and brilliancy of statement. We take pleasure in recommending the book to students of modern poetry.

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SOCIAL AND RELIGIOUS IDEALS. By Artemus Jean Haynes, M.A. New York: Charles Scribner's Sons. 1907.

This little volume is made up of concise and pithy reflections in paragraphic form, much like the "apophthegms" of some of the older writers. Each paragraph has a heading of its own, indicating the particular topic of practical or applied Christianity with which it deals. The tone of these "apophthegms" is humanitarian and liberal rather than distinctively theological. The volume seems likely to prove helpful as well as suggestive.

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THE BEAUTY OF GOD. By John Hood, A.M., M.D. Baltimore: J. Hanahan. 1908.

We have here a series of devout meditations upon the main facts of Christian Revelation, developed with reference to its supreme principles of Light, Life and Love. The point of view is not that of the professed theologian or the critical scholar; but rather that of the devout layman, who is at the same time a man of science. Especially suggestive and helpful is the chapter which deals with the Incarnation. Through failure, however, to consider the passage (St. John xvi. 13) in the original Greek, or even in the Revised Version, Dr. Hood is led to give a mistaken interpretation of the words spoken by our Lord concerning the Holy Spirit—"He shall not speak of himself." The Greek word (*ἀπὸ*) which is here translated in the Authorized Version by the English preposition 'of' would be more accurately rendered in accordance with present-day usage by 'from;' and this would give to our Lord's statement an entirely different meaning from that which Dr. Hood has here set forth. We have noted a number of typographical errors.